

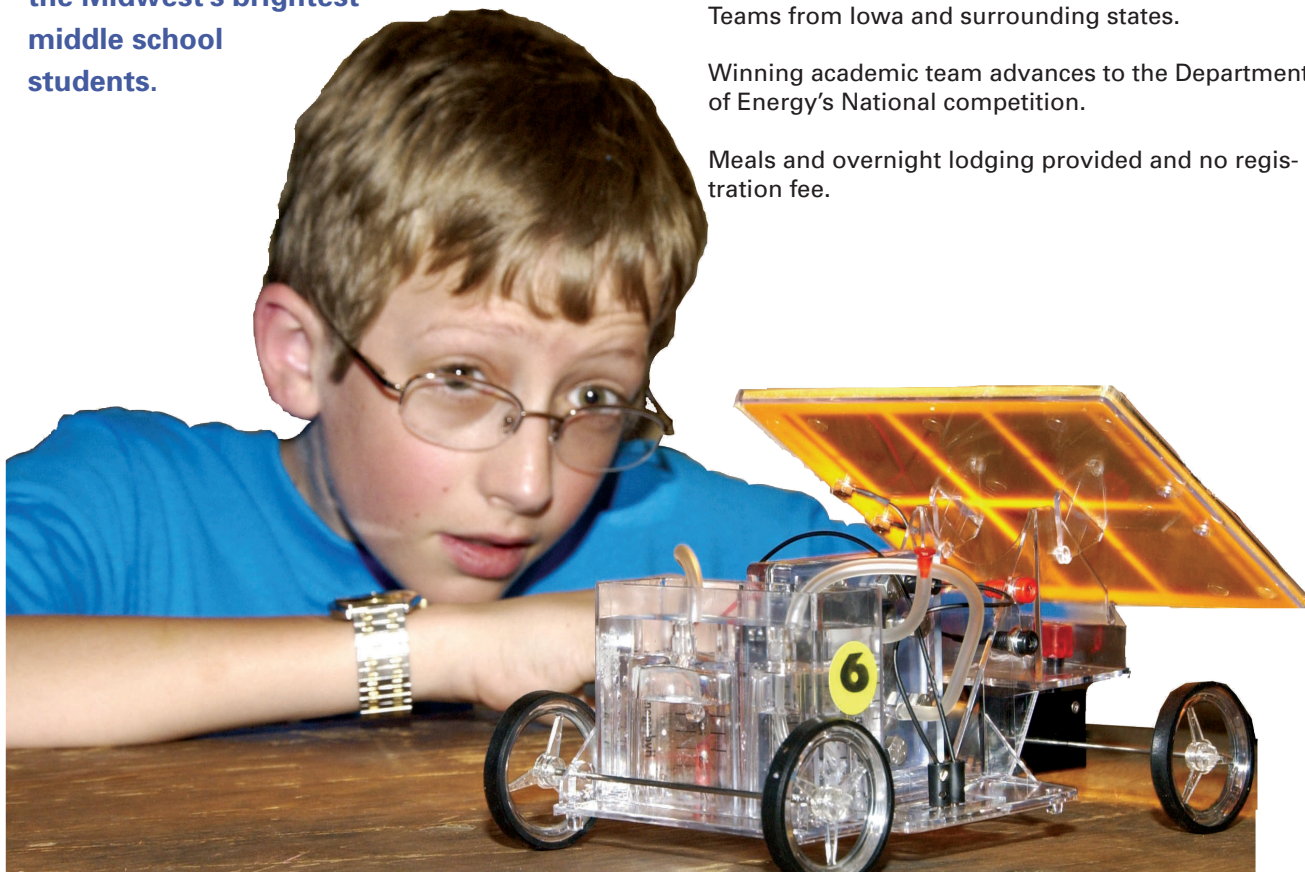
April 8-9, 2005

mark

your

calendars

Mark your calendars for April 8-9, 2005, and be a part of the Ames Laboratory/Iowa State University Middle School Science Bowl. Form a team and show you've got what it takes to compete against the best teams in the Midwest. Comprised of both academic and fuel-cell car building competitions, this event is guaranteed to excite and challenge the Midwest's brightest middle school students.



The basics

For students in grades 6, 7 and 8.

Two-day competition.

Fuel-cell Car Competition — 1 p.m. on Friday, April 8.

Academic Competition — 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 9.

Held on the beautiful Iowa State University campus in Ames, Iowa.

Teams from Iowa and surrounding states.

Winning academic team advances to the Department of Energy's National competition.

Meals and overnight lodging provided and no registration fee.

The car competition

Teams will construct a fuel-cell car on-site. The provided kit contains a solar panel, electric motor, fuel cell, a basic body frame and some supplies. Using these materials, teams will build a hydrogen fuel-cell powered vehicle and then race it.

Teams cannot bring a preconstructed car or any additional parts.



The academic competition

The Ames Lab/ISU Middle School Science Bowl is one of 24 regional competitions held across the nation. The academic competition is a fast-paced question-and-answer contest where students answer questions about earth, physical, life and general sciences, and math. Both pool-play and double-elimination formats are used.

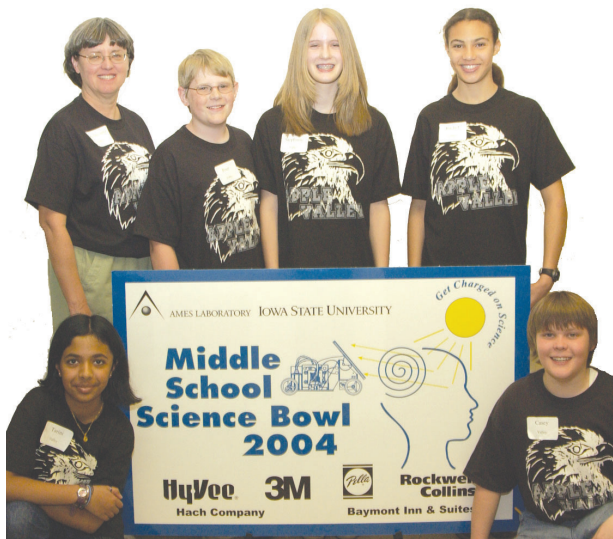
Each 16-minute match has a two-minute intermission. Questions are read aloud by a moderator. Any player can buzz in to answer a "toss-up" question. Points are awarded for a correct answer, and the team then has an opportunity to answer a bonus question. At the end of the match, the team with the most points wins.

Form your team

Teams consist of four students, one alternate and one coach. The coach may be a teacher or parent. Any students in grades 6-8 may form a team.

Four of the team's five players compete at any one time. Substitutions may occur during the two-minute halftime or between matches.

Note: An alternate is encouraged at the regional competition, but only four team members may travel to the national competition.



For coaches

Available resources are listed at www.scied.science.doe.gov/nmsb/coaches.htm.

On to Nationals

The U.S. Department of Energy will pay all expenses for the coach and four members of the winning academic team to compete in Golden, Colo., in June at the national competition.

No school may compete in more than one regional competition. If the entire winning team cannot participate in all national activities, the second-place team will attend instead.

The awards

Trophies are presented to the top two teams in each competition. Each player on those teams will receive an individual award.



For more information about the regional Middle School Science Bowl, contact:

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www.ameslab.gov/community/scibowl.html

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Middle School Science Bowl

a regional middle school competition



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